



President 104's Post #50
Matt Kinley



SHOUT-OUT TO ROTARIANS

As my year as the 104th RCLB President comes to an end, I want to give a big THANK YOU to all Rotarians for a very special year.

During a time of strife and solitude, Rotarians pulled a rabbit out of their hat, remained above it all, and worked for the very best that circumstances allowed.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped make it a memorable year:

A BIG SHOUT-OUT to:

First to **Loara Cadavona**, my great partner in life;

The 2020-2021 Rotary Club of Long Beach Board of Directors - the Leadership Team;

For everyone who REIMAGINED Rotary;

The Vice Presidents, **Braden Phillips**, **David Sommers**, **Sathya Chey** and **Ahmet Atahan**, for providing speakers at our weekly meetings -- we learned about a wide range of topics from THUMS, to dancing, to Bail Bonds, to astrology, about our local airport, history of the women's suffrage movement, and even Naval special warfare;

Our Executive Director, **Madrid Zimmerman**, for maintaining her calm no matter what is going on and for gently keeping us all on track;

Sarah Lindeman for her help, and we wish her best of luck in her next chapter! And welcome to **Jennifer Sarantos**, our new Administrative Assistant;

The JEDI team: **Mollie Beck** (#103), **Dennis Smith** (#105), **Alfredo Velasco** (#106), and **Michelle Dobson** (#107) for their support, advice, and frequent insults;

Michelle Dobson, for saying YES! to the Election Committee:
Greg Burnight, **Mollie Beck**, **Marcelle Epley**, **Steve Keesal**, **Andy McFarland**, **Jean Smith**, and **Alfredo Velasco**.

Community Outreach

Feeding the Future tops our list with inspirational service to the community.

Chaired by **Leslie Wiberg** and **Wendy Leggett** with the fantastic committee members **Robyn Gordon-Peterson**, **Diane Donaldson**, **Solimar Salas**, **Sarah Soriano**, **Kris Gragson**, **Marnee Brooks**, **Mollie Beck**, **Dan Lipton**, **Tina Barry**, **Joy Banerji**, **Shel-lee Davis** and others, raised over \$16,000 to purchase food and toiletries, and they coordinated delivery of 8,422 pounds of goods to LBCC and CSULB;

Robyn Gordon-Peterson and her monthly clean-up crew for their stewardship of Rotary Centennial Park;

Janey Roeder, who doggedly achieved revival of the CSULB Rotaract Club;

Lisa Finn for taking on the challenge of establishing a Community Rotaract Club with help from **Torrie Kinley** and **Madeleine Finn**.
Thanks to **Christopher Yco** for stepping up when Lisa was sidelined;

Henry Fung for recruiting Rotarians for LB CaLL student interviews, for Sato Academy's Product Development competition, and for Rotary's Students' Career Opportunities, Prospects and Exploration (SCOPE) Project ♦ and to all Rotarians who assisted in those events;

Steve Hockett and **Tina Barry** on the new Rotary Rapid Action Team (RRAT), under our Community Services Director, **Dan Lipton**, for collecting 1050 pairs of socks for homeless people and \$6,870 in holiday gift cards for families in need, as well as books & toys for distribution by the Salvation Army;

RMH Meals ♦ **Dorian Bolick** and his team raised \$1600 from members to buy restaurant meals for residents of the Ronald McDonald House, and **Leslie Wiberg** who helped to deliver;

Big thanks to **Andy McFarland** (*aka Chief Ranger*) and the Camp Enterprise crew for pivoting to find creative ways to support LB high school students this year, including virtual mock interviews and judging the Poly PACE Green Business Plan competition (*Kay Cofield, Henry Fung, & Willetta McCulloh*);

Global Outreach

Greg Owen and all contributors who participated in the matching grants for End Polio Now;

Freda Hinsche Otto for our monthly International Service Meetings;
Supporters of projects - Navajo Water, Mozambique Water, Caborca, and Malaria & COVID relief in Africa;

David Lott for bringing awareness of the Mozambique Water Project and raising \$30,000, which with matching funds creates purchasing power of over \$100,000;

Gloria Cordero for keeping us informed about Navajo water needs;

Dee Wood for her District work with Foundation Global Scholarships.

And to **Adriana Lanting** for ensuring the RCLB's opportunities to share in grants - keeping RI's global reach and projects always top of mind!

By the Numbers

RCLB members donated **\$64,000** to the Rotary International Foundation, and **17** members earned Paul Harris Fellow recognition.

Honorary member **Donna Reckseen** tracked and monitored Paul Harris contributions and would have provided cakes to the PHF recipients if it weren't for COVID!

Wayne Slavitt for the Paul Harris recognition presentations;

For the Paul Kennard Teacher Literacy Grants in the amount of **\$16,800** to **16** teachers;

Frank Newell and **Nel Varenas** and the Reading By Nine Committee raised over **\$51,000**, including **\$2,200** donated in the name of Paul Kennard;

For all who contributed to the Rotary Club of Long Beach Charitable Foundation through birthday, graduation and other milestone recognitions totaling **\$35,000**;

The Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation which disbursed **\$65,000** to support 10 Long Beach nonprofits;

For Non-Profit Literacy Grants of **\$20,000** disbursed to 10 local nonprofits;

Those who contributed to the Long Beach Rotary Scholarship Foundation, totaling **\$282,286** this year with **\$58,515** for the Mark Bixby Leadership Award fund.
183 scholarships and **\$345,300** total were distributed.

Membership

Mark Guillen, for chairing **Membership Madness** and to all who competed, especially the winning team of **Sathya Chey, Judy Ross** and **Alfredo Velasco**.
Sathya co-sponsored 3 new Rotarians this year, more than anyone else!

All new Rotarians who joined July 2020-June 2021: **Christopher Yco, Jesse Heisler, Andrew Scammon, Jim Bunnell, Sarah Soriano, Jane Caddell, Rini Ghosh, Jeanne Perales, Mike Rivard, David Gayl, Mary Loos, Jill Baker, and Caryn Desai**.
Your first Rotarian year is unique and will forever be one for the RCLB history books.

The membership gang for Rotary Revealed!

Zoom Meetings

Sergeants at Arms **Dee Wood, Rayne Sherman** and **Rhiannon Acree** for their help in making the Rotary Zoom meetings fun and interesting.
Dee for keeping things light, **Rhiannon** for her Welsh sayings, and **Rayne** for his classic cars;

First Dog Marlon Kinley!

David Sommers and his LB Post team for educating us about Zoom production and hosting us as well;

Rhiannon Acree for allowing us to invade her Cambrian Homecare workspace with our Zoom production set for many weekly meetings;

To the Rotarians who facilitated conversations in the virtual Break-Out Sessions to help us all stay close during COVID;

To everyone who participated in the **Rotary on the Road** segments, which helped us keep in touch with our Rotarian friends;

For all who helped us produce Rotary Zoom meetings, including **Rich Gibson, Cam Killingsworth, Tim Aldrete, Olivia Maiser, Kay Cofield, Bob Christian, John Graham, Steve & Meredith Shaw, Sal Farfan**, and **Jesse Heisler**.

Bob Bond of Bond Consulting Service for providing technical support to the Rotary office year-after-year-after-year!

RCLB Fellowship Events

For **Vali DeVries** for her planning and organizing the President ♦s Party last week;

For all of you who participated in the **Gift of Time**, calling your fellow Rotarians during the holidays;

For **David Sommers**, who made us laugh as Elf No. 13, Cupid, a leprechaun, and academic master of ceremonies;

Everyone who attended our post-vax celebration Picnic at the POA Park;

Lydia Vincenty-Lowell and **Brett Lewis** for reimagining 5 O ♦clock Somewhere;

Janey Roeder for chairing the Rotary Roots Committee (*Diane Donaldson, Henry Fung, Steve Shaw, Solimar Salas, and Mu Zhang*) which created TWO events this year!

Those who opened their businesses:

Fall Rotary Roots: **Don Serafano, Jim Morris, Bill Ridgeway, Marcelle Epley, Debra Fixen, Steve Keesel, and Alfredo Velasco;**
Spring Rotary Roots: **Dan Lipton, Kay Cofield, Rex Richardson, Mark Guillen, Ahmet Atahan, Julie Meenan and Joe Hower;**

Rich Gibson for heading up the 2020-21 RCLB Golf League;

Participants (*Rotarians & pets*) in the RotaryGram Pawfect Partners profiles;

Steve Shaw for organizing a ♦high adventure♦ bike ride along Shoreline;

Randy Kemner for the Virtual Wine Tasting;

Small Group Lunch Focus Group meeting ♦ **Joyoti Banerji, Tina Barry, Janey Roeder, Judy Ross, Solimar Salas and Wayne Slavitt;**

Diane Donaldson♦s Virtual Valentine Floral Workshop;

All participants in the RCLB First Annual Car Rally organized by **Steve & Meredith Shaw, Rayne Sherman, and Dave Woody,** ending at **Aaron Blackburn**♦s Derricks On Atlantic;

Ghost Stories at Scary O♦clock with **Alfredo Velasco** and his spooky ringing phone in his attic;

Business Breakfast Roundtables ♦ **Rayne Sherman and Lisa Hain;**

Football Pool ♦ **Andy McFarland** (*The Commish*);

Four-Way Test Committee, chaired by **Lynne Wainfan;**

Phil Steuber for the Memorial Day tribute to all Rotarian Veterans;

Rotarians who helped provide **Lisa Finn** with meals, transportation and other support throughout her recent health challenge.

Telling the RCLB Story

Dan Lipton for the Rotary coverage on the 2-page spread in *TravelHost Beach Cities Magazine*;

Mary Loos for featuring the LBRSF in *Long Beach Living* and *Alamitos Bay Neighbors*;

Jay Beeler for publishing our good news in *The Beachcomber*;

Henry Fung for his help as a weekly RotaryGram proofreader;

Every member who posts about the RCLB on social media;

Kay Cofield for untiring and generous audio editing and videography;

Assistant to the President, **Olivia Maiser**, for being sounding board and filter, helping all of us to avoid foot-in-mouth disease. Special thanks for all the wisdom, patience and all her work in getting the message out to our community!

David Sommers for publishing our good news in the *LB POST*;

Steve Hockett, Nelson Kerr, James Ahumada and Tina Barry, who contributed RotaryGram Spotlight articles to introduce new Rotarians to us.

Awards

Long Beach Rotary Scholarship Foundation

Introducing on location, via Zoom, the first Cochran Scholarship Awardee, 2020 Newell Family Scholarships, 2020 Mark Bixby Leadership Award and recently, in person, the two 2021 MBLA Recipients;

Bob Latimer, our Cup of Kindness winner;

Cam Killingsworth, our President♦s Award winner, and for her invaluable contribution to the weekly RotaryGram and producer of our weekly meetings;

Finally, thank you and farewell to our friend, **Steve Kuykendall**.



Footnote:

As you can see, there were a lot of activities over the last year by MANY Rotarians.

If I have omitted your name from this list, please know that I appreciate the contribution of each member and any omission is not intentional. Please contact President #105, Dennis Smith with any complaints: dennis@denniscsmith.com